

that the statutory periods before you would ever even have the first hearing, if there were such a thing, would be in the next fiscal year, that there is completely, absolutely no justification for having an A bill at this time. And the A bill is simply a device to attempt to hinder or destroy the bill, and it is not honest. So I would ask you to kill the A bill, and point out one final thing. In states where they do need the information, by the way, and this is an important factor and I'm going to pass this word on to the Public Service Commission. I hope they are listening. In states that do have this regulatory capability, instead of hiring their own accountants, just out of school or whatever, they have the authority, under the law right now just as every other state, to order the telephone company to bring in a certified public audit, a certified audit from an accounting firm acceptable to the Public Service Commission and paid for by the telephone company themselves. I repeat, they have the authority right now and could probably be saving hundreds of thousands, I don't know just how much, right now if they used just the authority they had to order the telephone company to get a certified audit from an accounting firm acceptable to PSC rather than going out and trying to hire kids to do audits. They have the authority right now to do that. Under 835 they would have that same authority if they indeed needed it. I repeat again, they can order a certified audit right from the telephone company. I ask you to kill the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Abboud, then Senator Warner.

SENATOR ABBODD: Mr. President, colleagues, I've had legislation that I haven't particularly liked too much. And what I have done is I voted against the A bills. Maybe after the bill advances the first...the bill advances originally, and then the A bill comes along and I'm still mad that this bill advanced, so I figure, well, I'll just try to kill the A bill. Then I'm reminded, usually by a member of the Appropriations Committee, that it really doesn't make a whole heck of a lot of difference because the next year they come back and they give a deficit appropriation. Now, there may be some disagreement by Senator DeCamp on what the fiscal impact should be. I tend to rely more on the agency that is actually involved in it on trying to find the fiscal impact. But I think we will all agree that there is...sometimes they are accurate and sometimes they are right on the button, and sometimes maybe they are not as accurate as they could be. But the important thing is that you have to have an A bill sitting there in order to fund it. It is going to cost some money, I don't think there is any question about that. If